

BRAUERIA 23

July 1996

Dear Trichopterologist,

The 8th International Symposium on Trichoptera in Minneapolis was certainly the most important event for trichopterists in the last year. Those who have attended will certainly remember it with delight. It was perfectly organized, and we got much new information on recent caddis research. Ralph Holzenthal and his people had done excellent work. The excursion to the Rocky Mountains was an unforgettable experience for the participants, and for some of them a unique opportunity to see this part of the world, and to collect there. The collecting was good, as you can see from the list in this number, compiled by Dave Ruiter, with several new state records. The visit to Lake Itasca was noteworthy with its mosquito and horsefly populations, and the storm during the night damaged many big trees. For me the surprise came only in the morning because the air conditioning in my room was so noisy that I did not hear the storm and the crashing trees !

The next Symposium will be in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in January 1998: see the invitation letter in this number. It will be half a year earlier than usual because of better weather conditions, and will certainly be an experience as our first meeting in a tropical country.

It may be news to you that a discussion draft is circulating for collecting opinions of taxonomists for a fourth edition of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. Some of the proposals are very remarkable: the diagnosis in a description must be given in a language which uses the Latin alphabet, and a new name must be recorded in the Zoological Record within five years. When a senior synonym has not been used as valid in the previous 50 years and a junior synonym has been widely used in this period, then the junior name is to be given precedence. It is hoped that this will prevent unnecessary changes of names as a result of the excavation of old and dubious names.

Some contributions in this number of BRAUERIA had to be printed in smaller characters, because it would otherwise have been too long and expensive. I must thank many colleagues who, especially during the Minneapolis meeting, contributed to the production cost. However money is limited and covers a smaller amount of the cost with succeeding numbers.

I was in Central Java in January this year for local collecting, and hope that the material will help to clarify some of Ulmer's species. In April I was in Thailand, and with Porntip Chantaramongkol, did intensive collecting in National Parks in the northeastern and southeastern parts of the country, to complete the faunistic survey. We hope to be able to present a preliminary list of the caddisflies of Thailand at the next Symposium in 1998. Soon after that we hope to compile an Atlas for the identification of the adults of Trichoptera in Thailand, similar to my European Atlas of 1983.

Sincerely yours,

